

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 167939
ORIGIN NODS-00

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DRAFTED BY S/AA:ALATHERTON, JR./HLK
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY
NEA - MR. STERNER
S/S:PTARNOFF

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 167939

NODIS
CHEROKEE FOR SAUNDERS FROM ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, XF, US

SUBJECT: WEIZMAN PROPOSAL TO GAMASY

REF: JERUSALEM 1788

1. I HAVE DISCUSSED YOUR AND SAM'S THOUGHT ABOUT
SUGGESTING GAMASY AND WEIZMAN MEET IN LONDON AT SAME TIME
AS THE FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY AND
MIKE STERNER. OUR FIRST REACTION WAS THAT THIS WAS A
SUFFICIENTLY INTRIGUING IDEA TO MERIT AT LEAST SLEEPING
ON BEFORE REACTING. ON REFLECTION, HOWEVER, OUR
COLLECTIVE JUDGMENT IS THAT IT IS PROBABLY NOT SOMETHING
WE SHOULD PROPOSE -- EVEN ASSUMING EGYPTIANS AGREE TO
A WEIZMAN-GAMASY MEETING WHICH IS OBVIOUSLY PROBLEMATICAL
AT BEST. FOR ONE THING, SIMULTANEOUS MEETINGS OF
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EGYPTIANS AND ISRAELIS IN LONDON WOULD TEND FURTHER TO
RAISE EXPECTATIONS OF DRAMATIC RESULTS WITH AN EVEN
BIGGER LETDOWN WHEN SUCH EXPECTATIONS ARE NOT FULFILLED.
THERE IS IN ADDITION THE PROBLEM OF CREATING CONFUSION
ABOUT WHO IS TALKING WITH WHOM ABOUT WHAT, SINCE PRE-
SUMABLY BOTH SETS OF TALKS WOULD BE FOCUSING ON WEST BANK/
GAZA ISSUES. THIS WOULD OF COURSE BE A PROBLEM IN ANY

CASE IF THERE WERE A WEIZMAN-GAMASY MEETING, BUT PERHAPS
LESS SO IF MEETINGS WERE SEQUENTIAL RATHER THAN SIMULTANEOUS

SO THAT SOME COORDINATION BETWEEN THE TWO WERE POSSIBLE.
VANCE

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